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ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 121338Z MAR 07
FM AMCONSUL LAGOS
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 8589
INFO RUEHUJA/AMEMBASSY ABUJA 8414
RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS LAGOS 000173

SIPDIS

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ALSO FOR AF/EPS CAROL TRIMBLE
ALSO FOR AF/RSA MARINDA HARPOLE

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KDEM](#) [PGOV](#) [EAID](#) [ECON](#) [SOCI](#) [NI](#)

SUBJECT: SSH GRANT HELPS BUILD CLASSROOMS IN ENUGU

REF: LAGOS 1239

11. (U) On March 5, Poloffs visiting Enugu State commissioned three classrooms at the Comprehensive Secondary School, Oruku township. A grant from the Ambassador's Special Self-Help (SSH) Fund funded the classrooms. Local traditional ruler Igwe Nomeh hosted the ceremony, which was attended by Project Director C.O. Ukemenam, local and state government officials, and students and teachers from Oruku Comprehensive School.

Commissioning Ceremony Highlights Community Effort

12. (U) At the ceremony, Ukemenam thanked the U.S. Embassy for its support, and said elders first conceived the project in 2002. Ukemenam said escalating costs of building materials hampered development and required additional community support. Poloff thanked the community for its hospitality and said the classroom project realized the goals of the Special Self-Help (SSH) Program, which encourages community participation in development.

SSH Project Details

13. (U) The project received two SSH grants in 2004 and 2005. The two grants totaled 3.8 million naira (approximately \$29,600). Members of the project committee, led by traditional ruler Nomeh, attended the Abuja SSH ceremony hosted by the Ambassador on September 25, 2005.

Media Coverage

14. (U) The commissioning received media coverage in the newspapers This Day, Vanguard, and New Age.

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